

§ 648.58

governed by the other management measures and restrictions in this part. The Council's development of area rotation programs is subject to the framework adjustment process specified in § 648.55, including the Area Rotation Program factors included in § 648.55(a).

§ 648.58 Rotational Closed Areas.

(a) *Elephant Trunk Closed Area.* Through December 31, 2006, no vessel may fish for scallops in, or possess or land scallops from, the area known as the Elephant Trunk Closed Area. No vessel may possess scallops in the Elephant Trunk Closed Area, unless such vessel is only transiting the area as provided in paragraph (c) of this section. The Elephant Trunk Closed Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
ET1	38°50' N.	74°20' W.
ET2	38°10' N.	74°20' W.
ET3	38°10' N.	73°30' W.
ET4	38°50' N.	73°30' W.
ET1	38°50' N.	74°20' W.

(b) *Delmarva Closed Area.* From January 1, 2007, through February 28, 2010, no vessel may fish for scallops in, or possess or land scallops from, the area known as the Delmarva Closed Area. No vessel may possess scallops in the Delmarva Closed Area, unless such vessel is only transiting the area as provided in paragraph (b) of this section. The Delmarva Closed Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
DMV1	38°10' N.	74°50' W.
DMV2	38°10' N.	74°00' W.
DMV3	37°15' N.	74°00' W.
DMV4	37°15' N.	74°50' W.
DMV1	38°10' N.	74°50' W.

(c) *Transiting.* No vessel possessing scallops may enter or be in the area(s) specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section unless the vessel is transiting the area and the vessel's

50 CFR Ch. VI (10–1–06 Edition)

fishing gear is unavailable for immediate use as defined in § 648.23(b), or there is a compelling safety reason to be in such areas.

(d) *Vessels fishing for species other than scallops.* A vessel may fish for species other than scallops within the closed areas specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section as allowed in this part, provided the vessel does not fish for, catch, or retain scallops or intend to fish for, catch, or retain scallops. Declaration through VMS that the vessel is fishing in the general category scallop fishery is deemed to be an intent to fish for, catch, or retain scallops.

[71 FR 33228, June 8, 2006]

§ 648.59 Sea Scallop Access Areas.

(a) *Hudson Canyon Sea Scallop Access Area.* (1) Through February 29, 2008, a vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may fish for, possess, and land scallops in or from, the area known as the Hudson Canyon Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, only if the vessel is participating in, and complies with the requirements of, the area access program described in § 648.60, and provided the vessel did not complete all of its allocated trips during the 2005 fishing year, as described in § 648.60(a)(3)(i)(E). A vessel issued a general scallop permit may fish in the Hudson Canyon Sea Scallop Access Area in 2006 and 2007 provided it complies with the trip declaration requirements specified in § 648.10(b)(4) and possession restrictions specified in § 648.52.

(2) The Hudson Canyon Sea Scallop Access Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
H1	39°30' N.	73°10' W.
H2	39°30' N.	72°30' W.
H3	38°30' N.	73°30' W.
H4/ET4	38°50' N.	73°30' W.
H5	38°50' N.	73°42' W.
H1	39°30' N.	73°10' W.

(3) *Number of trips.* Based on its permit category, a vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may fish any remaining Hudson Canyon Access Area trips allocated for the 2005 fishing year

Fishery Conservation and Management

§ 648.59

in the Hudson Canyon Access Area, as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(i)(C), plus any additional Hudson Canyon Access Area trips acquired through an authorized one-for-one exchange as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(ii). A vessel with unutilized compensation trips for Sea Scallop Access Area trips terminated early during the 2005 fishing year, pursuant to § 648.60(c), may take such compensation trips in the 2006 and/or 2007 fishing year in the Hudson Canyon Access Area. A vessel owner may exchange complete unutilized trips carried forward to the 2006 and 2007 fishing years with another vessel owner as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(ii). Compensation trips for prior trips terminated early that are carried forward from the 2005 fishing year, as specified in this paragraph (a)(3), may not be exchanged.

(b) *Closed Area I Access Area.* This area shall be managed on a 3-year cycle, with a 1-year closure, followed by a 2-year Area Access Program, as follows:

(1) Through February 28, 2007, and every third fishing year thereafter (*i.e.*, March 1, 2009, through February 28, 2010, etc.) vessels issued scallop permits, except vessels issued a NE Multi-species permit and a general category scallop permit and fishing in an approved SAP under § 648.85 and under multispecies DAS, may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from, the area known as the Closed Area I Access Area, described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(2) Beginning March 1, 2007, through February 28, 2009, and for every 2-year period, based on the fishing year, after the year-long closure described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section (*i.e.*, March 1, 2010 through February 29, 2012, etc.), and subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(4) of this section, a vessel issued a scallop permit may fish for, possess, and land scallops in or from, the area known as the Closed Area I Access Area, described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, only if the vessel is participating in, and complies with the requirements of, the area access program described in § 648.60.

(3) The Closed Area I Access Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated

(copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
CAIA1	41°26' N.	68°30' W.
CAIA2	41°09' N.	68°30' W.
CAIA3	41°4.54' N.	69°0.9' W.
CAIA1	41°26' N.	68°30' W.

(4) *Season.* A vessel issued a scallop permit may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from, the area known as the Closed Area I Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, except during the period June 15 through January 31 of each year the Closed Area I Sea Scallop Access Area is open to scallop vessels, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(5) *Number of trips—(i) Limited access vessels.* Based on its permit category, a vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may fish no more than the maximum number of trips in 2007 in the Closed Area I Access Area as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(i), unless the vessel owner has made an exchange with another vessel owner whereby the vessel gains a Closed Area I Access Area trip and gives up a trip into another Sea Scallop Access Area, as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(ii), or unless the vessel is taking a compensation trip for a prior Closed Area I Access Area trip that was terminated early, as specified in § 648.60(c).

(ii) *General category vessels.* (A) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(5)(ii)(B) of this section, subject to the possession limit specified in §§ 648.52(a) and (b) and 648.60(g), and subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(4) of this section, a vessel issued a general category scallop permit, may not enter in, or fish for, possess, or land sea scallops in or from the Closed Area I Access Area once the Regional Administrator has provided notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER, in accordance with § 648.60(g)(4), that 216 trips in the 2007 fishing year have been taken, in total, by all general category scallop vessels, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section. The Regional Administrator shall notify all general category scallop vessels of the date when the maximum number of allowed

§ 648.59

trips have been, or are projected to be, taken for the 2007 fishing year.

(B) A vessel issued a NE Multispecies permit and a general category scallop permit that is fishing in an approved SAP under §648.85 under multispecies DAS may fish in the Scallop Access Areas without being subject to the restrictions of paragraph (b)(5)(ii)(A) of this section, provided that it has not enrolled in the Scallop Area Access program. Such vessel is prohibited from possessing scallops.

(c) *Closed Area II Access Area.* This area shall be managed on a 3-year cycle, based on fishing years, with a 1-year closure, followed by a 2-year Area Access Program as follows:

(1) From March 1, 2007, through February 29, 2008, and every third fishing year thereafter, (i.e., March 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011, etc.) vessels issued scallop permits, except vessels issued a NE Multispecies permit and a general category scallop permit and fishing in an approved SAP under §648.85 and under multispecies DAS, may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from, the area known as the Closed Area II Access Area, described in paragraph (c)(3) of this section, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(2) Through February 28, 2007, and for every 2-year period after the year-long closure described in paragraph (c)(1) of this section (i.e., March 1, 2008, through February 28, 2010, etc.) and subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in paragraph (c)(4) of this section, a vessel issued a scallop permit may fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from, the area known as the Closed Area II Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (c)(3) of this section, only if the vessel is participating in, and complies with the requirements of, the area access program described in §648.60.

(3) The Closed Area II Sea Scallop Access Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
CAIIA1	41°00' N.	67°20' W.
CAIIA2	41°00' N.	66°35.8' W.
CAIIA3	41°18.6' N.	66°24.8' W.
CAIIA4	41°30' N.	66°34.8' W.

50 CFR Ch. VI (10–1–06 Edition)

Point	Latitude	Longitude
CAIIA5	41°30' N.	67°20' W.
CAIIA1	41°00' N.	67°20' W.

(4) *Season.* A vessel issued a scallop permit may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from the area known as the Closed Area II Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (c)(3) of this section, except during the period June 15 through January 31 of each year the Closed Area II Access Area is open to scallop vessels, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(5) *Number of trips—(i) Limited access vessels.* Based on its permit category, a vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may fish no more than the maximum number of trips in 2006 in the Closed Area II Access Area as specified in §648.60(a)(3)(i), unless the vessel owner has made an exchange with another vessel owner whereby the vessel gains a Closed Area II Access Area trip and gives up a trip into another Sea Scallop Access Area, as specified in §648.60(a)(3)(ii), or unless the vessel is taking a compensation trip for a prior Closed Area II Access Area trip that was terminated early, as specified in §648.60(c).

(ii) *General category vessels.* (A) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(5)(ii)(B) of this section, subject to the possession limits specified in §§648.52(a) and (b), and 648.60(g), and subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in paragraph (c)(4) of this section, a vessel issued a general category scallop permit may not enter in, or fish for, possess, or land sea scallops in or from the Closed Area II Access Area once the Regional Administrator has provided notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER, in accordance with §648.60(g)(4), that 865 trips in the 2006 fishing year have been taken, in total, by all general category scallop vessels, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section. The Regional Administrator shall notify all general category scallop vessels of the date when the maximum number of allowed trips have been, or are projected to be, taken for the 2006 fishing year.

(B) A vessel issued a NE Multispecies permit and a general category scallop permit that is fishing in an approved

Fishery Conservation and Management

§ 648.59

SAP under §648.85 under multispecies DAS may fish in the Scallop Access Areas without being subject to the restrictions of paragraph (c)(5)(ii)(A) of this section provided that it has not enrolled in the Scallop Area Access program. Such vessel is prohibited from possessing scallops.

(d) *Nantucket Lightship Access Area.*

(1) From March 1, 2008, through February 28, 2009, and every third fishing year thereafter (*i.e.*, March 1, 2011, through February 29, 2012, 2014, etc.) vessels issued scallop permits, except vessels issued a NE Multispecies permit and a general category scallop permit and fishing in an approved SAP under §648.85 and under multispecies DAS, may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from the area known as the Nantucket Lightship Access Area, described in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(2) Through February 29, 2008, and for every 2-year period, based on fishing years, after each the year-long closure described in paragraph (d)(1) of this section (*i.e.*, March 1, 2009, through February 28, 2011, etc.) and subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in paragraph (d)(4) of this section, a vessel issued a scallop permit may fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from, the area known as the Nantucket Lightship Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, only if the vessel is participating in, and complies with the requirements of, the area access program described in §648.60.

(3) The Nantucket Lightship Sea Scallop Access Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
NLSA1	40°50' N.	69°00' W.
NLSA2	40°30' N.	69°00' W.
NLSA3	40°30' N.	69°14.5' W.
NLSA4	40°50' N.	69°29.5' W.
NLAA1	40°50' N.	69°00' W.

(4) *Season.* A vessel issued a scallop permit may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from the area known as the Nantucket Lightship Sea

Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (d)(3) of this section, except during the period June 15 through January 31 of each year the Nantucket Lightship Access Area is open to scallop fishing, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(5) *Number of trips*—(i) *Limited access vessels.* Based on its permit category, a vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may fish no more than the maximum number of trips in 2006 and 2007 in the Nantucket Lightship Access Area as specified in §648.60(a)(3)(i), unless the vessel owner has made an exchange with another vessel owner whereby the vessel gains a Nantucket Lightship Access Area trip and gives up a trip into another Sea Scallop Access Area, as specified in §648.60(a)(3)(ii), or unless the vessel is taking a compensation trip for a prior Nantucket Lightship Closed Area Access Area trip that was terminated early, as specified in §648.60(c).

(ii) *General category vessels.* (A) Except as provided in paragraph (d)(5)(ii)(B) of this section, subject to the possession limits specified in §§648.52(a) and (b), and 648.60(g), a vessel issued a general category scallop permit, may not enter in, or fish for, possess, or land sea scallops in or from the Nantucket Lightship Access Area once the Regional Administrator has provided notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER, in accordance with §648.60(g)(4), that 577 trips in the 2006 fishing year, and 394 trips in the 2007 fishing year, have been taken, in total, by all general category scallop vessels, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section. The Regional Administrator shall notify all general category scallop vessels of the date when the maximum number of allowed trips have been, or are projected to be, taken for the 2006 and 2007 fishing years.

(B) A vessel issued a NE Multispecies permit and a general category scallop permit that is fishing in an approved SAP under §648.85 under multispecies DAS may fish in the Scallop Access Areas without being subject to the restrictions of paragraph (d)(5)(ii)(A) of this section provided that it has not enrolled in the Scallop Area Access

program. Such vessel is prohibited from possessing scallops.

(e) *Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area.* (1) From January 1, 2007, through February 29, 2012, and subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in paragraph (e)(3) of this section, a vessel issued a scallop permit may fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from the area known as the Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (e)(2) of this section, only if the vessel is participating in, and complies with the requirements of, the area access program described in § 648.60.

(2) The Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area is defined by straight lines connecting the following points in the order stated (copies of a chart depicting this area are available from the Regional Administrator upon request):

Point	Latitude	Longitude
ETAA1	38°50' N.	74°20' W.
ETAA2	38°10' N.	74°20' W.
ETAA3	38°10' N.	73°30' W.
ETAA4	38°50' N.	73°30' W.
ETAA1	38°50' N.	74°20' W.

(3) *Season.* A vessel issued a scallop permit may not fish for, possess, or land scallops in or from the area known as the Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area, described in paragraph (d)(2) of this section, from September 1 through October 31 of each year the Elephant Trunk Access Area is open to scallop fishing as a Sea Scallop Access Area, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.

(4) *Number of trips—(i) Limited access vessels.* Based on its permit category, a vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may fish no more than the maximum number of trips in the Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area between January 1, 2007, and February 29, 2008, as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(i), or as adjusted as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(i)(F), unless the vessel owner has made an exchange with another vessel owner whereby the vessel gains an Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area trip and gives up a trip into another Sea Scallop Access Area, as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(ii), or unless the vessel is taking a compensation trip for a prior Elephant Trunk Access Area trip that was terminated early, as specified in § 648.60(c).

(ii) *General category vessels.* Subject to the possession limits specified in §§ 648.52(a) and (b) and 648.60(g), a vessel issued a general category scallop permit may not enter in, or fish for, possess, or land sea scallops in or from the Elephant Trunk Sea Scallop Access Area once the Regional Administrator has provided notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER, in accordance with § 648.60(g)(4), that 1,360 trips allocated for the period January 1, 2007, through February 29, 2008, unless adjusted as specified in § 648.60(a)(3)(i)(F), have been taken, in total, by all general category scallop vessels, unless transiting pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section. The Regional Administrator shall notify all general category scallop vessels of the date when the maximum number of allowed trips have been, or are projected to be, taken for the period January 1, 2007, through February 29, 2008.

(f) *Transiting.* A sea scallop vessel that has not declared a trip into the Sea Scallop Area Access Program may enter the Sea Scallop Access Areas described in paragraphs (a), (b), (d), and (e), of this section, and possess scallops not caught in the Sea Scallop Access Areas, for transiting purposes only, provided the vessel's fishing gear is stowed in accordance with § 648.23(b). A scallop vessel that has declared a trip into the Sea Scallop Area Access Program may transit a Scallop Access Area while steaming to or from another Scallop Access Area, provided the vessel's fishing gear is stowed in accordance with § 648.23(b), or there is a compelling safety reason to be in such areas without such gear being stowed. A vessel may only transit the Closed Area II Access Area, as described in paragraph (c) of this section, if there is a compelling safety reason for transiting the area and the vessel's fishing gear is stowed in accordance with § 648.23(b).

[71 FR 33223, June 8, 2006]

§ 648.60 Sea scallop area access program requirements.

(a) A vessel issued a limited access scallop permit may only fish in the Sea Scallop Access Areas specified in § 648.59, subject to the seasonal restrictions specified in § 648.59, when fishing